



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/788,553	02/26/2004	Sheng-Ming Chang	14257 B	7046

36672 7590 07/05/2005

CHARLES E. BAXLEY, ESQ.
90 JOHN STREET
THIRD FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10038

EXAMINER

BINDA, GREGORY JOHN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3679

DATE MAILED: 07/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/788,553

Applicant(s)

CHANG, SHENG-MING

Examiner

Greg Binda

Art Unit

3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 2/26/04 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because:
 - a. Reference numerals are used to identify parts/features in the first embodiment shown in Figs. 5-8 and then reused to identify modifications of such parts/features in the second embodiment at Fig. 9. None of the reused reference numerals in Fig. 9 are proper. Every part/feature has been modified. See MPEP § 608.02(e)
 - b. Reference numeral 224 appears at page 5, line 21, but does not appear in the drawings.
 - c. In Fig. 8, the leftmost instance of reference numeral 13 needs to be changed to 31. See Fig. 9 and page 4, line 11.
 - d. Fig. 7 fails to show “the positioning rubber 15 engages with first positioning circular groove 221” as described on page 6.
 - e. Fig. 7 fails to show “the stopping part 2111 of the first positioning circular groove 211 presses against the first positioning ball 32 to protruded” as described at page 6.
 - f. Fig. 8 fails to show “shaft 10 and the socket 31 are connected in an angle” as described at page 6.
 - g. Fig. 8 fails to show the positioning rubber 15 engages with the third positioning rove 223” as described at page 7.
 - h. Fig. 8 fails to show “the stopping part 2121 of the second concave groove 212 presses against the second positioning ball 33to protruded” as described at page 7.

Art Unit: 3679

2. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

3. The title of the invention is objected to because it includes the word "improved". See MPEP § 606.

4. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it begins with a phrase that can be implied.

5. The disclosure is objected to because:

- a. Page 2, lines 7 & 9, the phrase “straight manner” should be changed to “a straight manner”.
- b. Page 2, line 17, the phrase “on straight manner” should be changed to “in a straight manner”
- c. Page 2 ends with the nonsensical sentence “”It also allows speedily switch . . . “
- d. Page 4, line 14 includes the improper term “the Figs.” The word “figure” (and its abbreviation), unless used to identify a particular figure or figures, should not be capitalized.
- e. Page 4, line 15 includes the nonsensical phrase “part 12 is curve in shape”
- f. Page 4, lines 26 & 27 includes the nonsensical term “speedily assembly”. The term must be corrected here and everywhere else it appears in the application.
- g. Page 5, lines 5 & 6 includes the nonsensical phrase “the socket 31 is engaged and positioned safety and stably”
- h. Page 6, line 14 includes the nonsensical phrase “operating in straight and fixed direction”
- i. Page 6, line 15 includes the nonsensical phrase “element 22 will moves towards”
- j. Page 6, line 18, “the stopping part 2111 of the first positioning circular groove 211” should be changed to “the stopping part 2111 of the first concave groove 211.
- k. Page 6, lines 19 & 20 includes the nonsensical collection of words “ball 32 to protruded from the first ball hole 122. to achieve the purpose of”
- l. The sentence at page 7, lines 12-17 does not make sense.

Art Unit: 3679

m. Page 7 ends with the nonsensical phrase “so that the socket 31 can operates in an angle manner”.

6. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the limitations in claim 4 at page 11.

7. The entire disclosure needs to be proof read and corrected by a person proficient in the English language.

Claim Objections

8. Claims 1-7 are objected to because:

- a. Each claim begins with an inappropriate word, “Improved”.
- b. Claim 1, at page 9, lines 14 & 15, and claim 5 include the nonsensical limitation “a positioning pivotal element to insert into for positioning”
- c. Claim 1, at page 9, lines 14 & 15 and claim 2, at page 10, line 13, and claim 5 include the nonsensical limitation “speedily assembly”
- d. Claim 1, at page 9, line 23, and claim 5 recite the nonsensical limitation “said sliding control element can moves along the axis”
- e. Claim 1, at page 9, line 26, and claim 5 recite “to perform engaging function”. It is unclear what this is supposed to mean.
- f. Claim 2, at page 10, lines 7 & 8 and claim 6 include the nonsensical limitation, “a first, second and third positioning circular grooves in neighboring with each other”

Art Unit: 3679

- g. Claims 4 & 5 recite the nonsensical limitation “a shoulder in corresponding to the inner circumference of said socket”
- h. Claim 5 recites the nonsensical limitation “a first and a second concave grooves”
- i. Claim 6, line last recites “to achieve positioning purpose”. It is unclear what this is supposed to mean.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

9. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

10. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claim 1, at page 9, lines 26 & 27, and claim 5 recite that an “engaging function” occurs when the “socket turn or fixedly sleeves on said connecting shaft”. There is no description of the socket 31 turning on the connecting shaft 10 in order to effect an “engaging function”. Nor is there any disclosed structure that would provide such a capability.

11. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Art Unit: 3679

12. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

a. Claim 1, at page 9, lines 8 & 9, and claim 5 recite the limitation "a ball hole is disposed on each side of said connecting part". It is not clear how many "sides" the "curved shape" connecting part has.

b. Claim 2 recites the limitation "the purpose or positioning" in line last. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Conclusion

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Wenzel, Wu and Lin each disclose a connector having at least some of the features of the instant invention.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Greg Binda whose telephone number is (571) 272-7077. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30 am to 7:00 pm with alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on (571) 272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3679

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Greg Binda
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3679